



## FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

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*For Immediate Release*

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# Americorps Team Restores Park Habitat

A team of eager volunteers from across the nation will start working to restore the natural habitats of five Fairfax County Park Authority parks, removing invasive plants, laying down mulch, burlap and other protective spreads, as well as repairing and updating park property. The Americorps team will spend the next several weeks at Marie Butler Leven Preserve, Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, Frying Pan Farm Park, Hidden Oaks Nature Center and Sully Historic Site working on a variety of community service projects.

The eight Americorps volunteers hail from Florida, California, Tennessee, Connecticut, Minnesota and Virginia. These young men and women will work full-time to complete projects at each location. The Park Authority has been the beneficiary of similar volunteer service several times over the years. Volunteer Program Coordinator Erin Chernisky understands what a difference these volunteers can make noting, "The work they accomplish has tremendous value to us in terms of improving the environment. Invasive plant removal is very hard work but they are eager and dedicated and get the job done."

Americorps is a team-based program for young adults ages 17-24. Volunteers serve full-time to strengthen community needs in America. In return, the students receive scholarship funds and residency benefits. For more information contact the Resource Management Division at 703-324-8750.

Media Note: Arrangements can be made for photographs or interviews with the team members by contacting the Public Information Office at 703-324-8662.

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